

Coalition ends Haven Denial

By Spc. David Landrum
CJTF-180 PAO

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — U.S. and coalition forces completed an operation in southeastern Afghanistan Sunday. Operation Haven Denial began Wednesday and took place in Pakitka and Khost provinces.

“Operation Haven Denial is a deliberately planned operation focused on anti-coalition forces along the border region,” said Col. Rodney Davis, Combined Joint Task Force-180 public affairs officer. “It is just one of many operations we’re conducting in support of the Afghan people’s desire to spread prosperity and rid the country of anti-coalition Taliban and al-Qaida.”

According to officials, Taliban and anti-coalition members have been attacking a variety of targets, both civilian and military.

“The purpose of this operation is to prevent the re-emergence of terrorism, deny anti-coalition fighters sanctuary and prevent further attacks against coalition forces and equipment,” said Davis.

He said the main objective of the operation was to defeat or capture ACM’s operating in the area. If capture could not be performed immediately, the coalition was to prevent them from escaping into neighboring Pakistan by establishing blocking positions along the border.

“The coalition has had a significant impact on the enemy,” said Davis. “We’re hunting down their leadership and ultimately we will win the war on terrorism.”

The operation included forces from Task Force Devil and the Italian Task Force Nibbio.

“We will, when necessary, undertake combat operations to meet our objectives in the war on terror,” said Davis. “We will use balanced, appropriate forces to achieve clearly defined operational objectives.”



Photo by Pfc. Terri Rorke

A grand opening...

Washikheil Boys Primary School students sing a song about education during the school's opening ceremony Monday in Kapisa province. For more information about the school opening, see tomorrow's edition of the Freedom Watch.

Incursions make dangerous trend

By Air Force Staff Sgt. Russell Wicke
455th EOG PAO

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — It is a hot dusty day on the Bagram airfield. Fine powdered dirt swarms through the air as a passenger of the wind, making visibility low for ground forces and aircrew alike.

Meanwhile, a 500,000-pound hulk of metal and fuel approaches the runway for a landing. On board, nearly 100 troops and three crewmembers prepare to touchdown. As the 174 foot long C-17 Globemaster III devours the space between the ground and itself, the pilot spots two joggers breaking his path. A knee-jerk reaction diverts the aircraft one degree too far off the landing path, resulting in a crash. More than 100 lives and a \$180 million aircraft are lost because of one shortcut across the runway for two joggers.

The above scenario is a fictional painting of what could very well become a reality here every time there is a runway incursion. In just the past two weeks, the Bagram runway has experienced two similar incursions.

According to Air Force Tech. Sgt. Fred Gentile, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing flight safety non-commissioned officer, a runway incursion occurs when people or vehicles enter an aircraft movement area without explicit permission from the air traffic control tower.

“Runway incursions here need to stop now before something catastrophic happens,” said Gentile. “Since this trend started we’ve been on the edge of an accident. If it continues, it’s opening a door to disaster.”

It is imperative that individuals here know the risk involved in crossing the runway.

See **RUNWAY**, Page 4

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Matthew Lovett, 18, is taken to a police vehicle.

Police: Arrests foiled teens' killing spree plot

OAKLYN, N.J. — A failed carjacking that led to the arrest of three teenagers was to be the first step in a planned killing spree that allegedly was to have targeted three classmates and then random others in Oaklyn, N.J., authorities there said Monday.

"They had the intent to kill, I mean, I've seen that look before. They had the intent to kill," said Matthew Rich, whom police say was the teens' intended carjacking victim. "That's when I knew. My instincts told me it's time to move on. Don't stand, don't play around with these guys, just get out of there."

The teens were arrested early Sunday after what Oaklyn Police Chief Chris Ferrari called a "brief but tense standoff."

Foam blasts 16-inch hole in final shuttle test

SAN ANTONIO, N.M. — A chunk of foam insulation fired at shuttle wing parts Monday blew open a gaping 16-inch hole, yielding what one member of the Columbia investigation team said was the "smoking gun" that proves what brought down the spaceship.

The crowd of about 100 watching the test gasped and cried, "Wow!" when the foam hit — the impact so violent that it popped a lens off one of the cameras recording the event.

The foam struck roughly the same spot where insulation that broke off Columbia's external fuel tank smashed into the shuttle's left wing during launch. Investigators had speculated that the damage led to the ship's

destruction during re-entry over Texas in February, but Monday's test offered the strongest proof yet.



After 29 years stuck together, the twins were willing to accept the risks of surgery for the chance of separate lives.

Complications hit twins' surgery

CNN — The operation to separate two conjoined Iranian sisters will take longer than expected with surgeons battling against unstable blood pressure levels as they slowly split apart the twins' fused brain.

The complicated and delicate process of paring apart the brains of 29-year-old Laden and Laleh Bijani — who are joined at the head — began late Monday, said Dr. Prem Kumar Nair, a spokesman for Raffles Hospital in Singapore where the operation is taking place.

Separating them is one of the most challenging parts of the surgery, dubbed "Operation Hope."

Man speaks after 19-year silence

CNN — Nearly 19 years after a wreck left a man paralyzed and unable to communicate, his power of speech has returned, the man's family said Monday.

Terry Wallis was 19 when the pickup truck in which he and two friends were driving near Stone County drove through a rail and off a 25-foot bluff and tumbled to the ground. One man was killed; another emerged without a scratch; Wallis was paralyzed.

Doctors told his parents that he was in a coma, said his mother, Angilee.

But June 12, their son made a major advance, the parents said.

The nursing home worker escorted Terry's mother to his room and, as she always did, asked her patient who his visitor

was.

"He just said, 'Mom,'" Angilee said. "I like to fell over."

DA to make Kobe decision

EAGLE, Colo. — Prosecutors in western Colorado said Monday they have not yet decided whether to file criminal charges against Los Angeles Lakers basketball star Kobe Bryant for an alleged sexual assault that police said happened last week.

District Attorney Mark Hurlbert said his office hopes to make a decision by the end of the week, but said it may take longer.

"It's possible he will be charged with sexual assault," Hurlbert said. "It's possible he won't be charged with anything. It's possible he'll be charged with something different."

Network can call itself 'Spike TV'

NEW YORK — Filmmaker Spike Lee and Viacom have settled a lawsuit Lee filed to keep the media giant from calling its TNN cable television network "Spike TV."

Lee had obtained a temporary injunction in June, preventing the name change, but on Monday state Supreme Court Justice Walter Tolub lifted the order.

The ruling means Viacom, which also owns CBS and MTV, can proceed immediately with plans to rebrand TNN as Spike TV, the "first television network for men."

Abizaid takes over CENTCOM

CNN — Gen. John Abizaid was hailed as "the leader for the 21st century" during a ceremony Monday when he took the reins of U.S. Central Command from Gen. Tommy Franks.

"I know of no one more qualified to follow in Tom Franks' very large footsteps," said Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld at Monday's handover ceremony at the command's headquarters at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida.

"John Abizaid brings an extraordinary combination of talent and experience to this critical post. He's the leader for the 21st century," said Rumsfeld.

Rumsfeld pinned a fourth star on the general before the handover ceremony.

Aid stations provide care, prevent CSH overload

Story and photo by
Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — There are three Army aid stations in Bagram that augment the Combat Support Hospital. Aid stations are used as a filter system to assist the hospital in patient care.

“Aid stations are an integral part of medicine. We’re able to provide a lot of services (to the soldiers),” said Capt. Marc Roy, battalion surgeon, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C.

“It’s overkill to send all patients to the CSH. If they had all the patients, they may not be able to care for all the surgical patients. It would overload the CSH to send all sick call patients there,” said Maj. Anthony D. Hirtz, regiment flight surgeon, 229th Aviation Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C.

The aid stations are located on an area basis. There is one in Dragon City, Viper City and the “2 Panther” area. The Dragon City aid station moved in June 30 and has treated approximately 30 patients. The Viper City aid station treats about 65 patients weekly and the “2 Panther” aid station treats ten to 30. “2 Panther” has such a wide range of patient numbers and less than other aid stations because they have line medics with the soldiers who treat many of the problems.

The aid stations provide level one and two care for their soldiers. The stations are mainly responsible for a certain area, but will not turn away any soldiers.

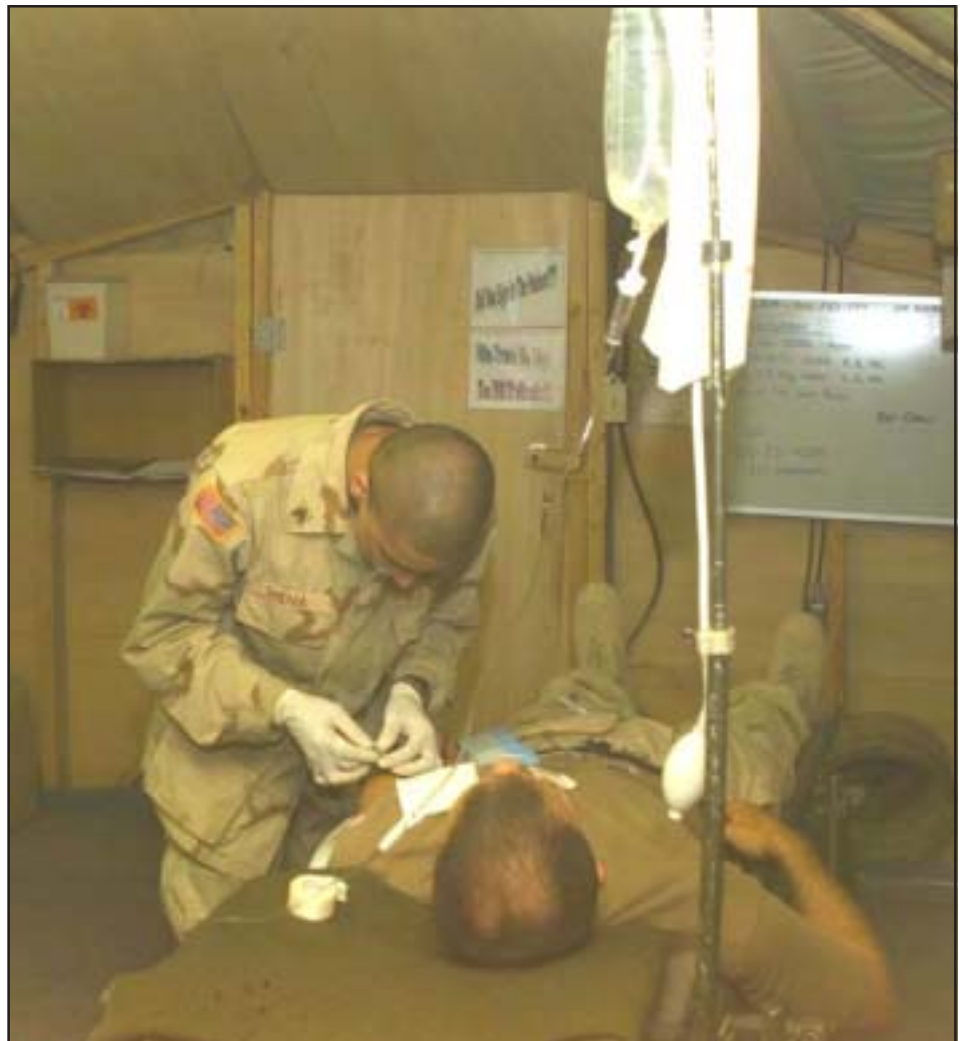
They are also used as casualty collection points during a crisis.

The care they provide is mainly refilling and dispensing medication, and treating routine patients and casualties, basically standard sick call. They also outprocess soldiers.

According to Roy, having an aid station so accessible helps for providing quick care instead of soldiers waiting in the hospital.

“It’s a benefit for the soldiers. They pass by and say, ‘Maybe I should get this checked out,’” he said.

Maj. Michael Flaherty, senior assistant physician, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum,



Sgt. Jose Mena, treatment noncommissioned officer, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., gives a soldier an IV. Dehydration is commonly treated in the aid stations around base.

N.Y. thinks the soldiers are more likely to come to the aid stations because of the welcome they receive.

“The few people who have come here have been happy with the service – maybe that’s because there is a more compassionate reception than a traditional aid station would give,” he said.

Roy thinks it helps the soldier to know the physician they see.

“The guys are comfortable with me so they ask me questions they might not ask (a physician at the CSH),” he said.

The patient complaints vary based on the season.

“The injuries and illness we see depend on the time of the year. Recently, there has been an outbreak of vomiting and diarrhea.

We’re also starting to see people with minor illnesses leading to dehydration,” said Hirtz.

In addition to providing care, the stations also provide education and commanders are briefed on trends the stations are seeing to try to minimize the cases.

But the aid stations don’t only provide support on base; they also provide it on missions. “2 Panther” usually sends the battalion surgeon or a physician’s assistant and the medics on missions. The Dragon City aid station has also augmented the explosive ordnance disposal on demolitions and military intelligence on mission.

All aid stations have personnel available 24 hours a day for sick call procedures and emergencies.

RUNWAY, from Page 1

"This is a life and death matter," said Air Force Lt. Col. Robert McGrath, 455th Airfield Operations Flight commander. "People and airplanes don't mix on the runway."

This restriction against runway incursions did not originate from the Air Force, but comes directly from the Federal Aviation Administration, said Gentile.

Although the Bagram airfield is not exempt from this regulation, multiple incursions in the past few months point to a problem. Gentile said he believes that the problem lies in ignorance.

"Many people don't know about this restriction or aren't familiar enough with the area," he said. "It's important to know your surroundings. One wrong turn on a path can put you on the runway." McGrath said he believes a part of the problem lies elsewhere.

"I think there are complacent attitudes to blame here," said McGrath. "The runway is not just a short cut to get from (point) A to (point) B."

In fact, there is a process to be followed to gain access to the runway.

"The tower is the coordinator of all airfield traffic," said Gentile. "It does not matter what rank or authority you are, you need permission from the tower to be in any aircraft movement area."

The very least that will happen to a first-time offender will be a face to face meeting with the Expeditionary Operations Group commander, Air Force Col. Bill Busby, escorted by the offender's commander.

Although only time will tell if these incursions will cease, there has been some improvement from the past.

"We've made a lot of progress with vehicles concerning this regulation," said Busby. "But we need to ensure that joggers know to stay off the runway as well."

Accomplishing this goal harmonizes with our military's mission, he said.

"Our primary mission here is to kill and capture the enemy; and bring home the same people that we deployed here," said the colonel. "We don't need to be putting our warriors or aircraft at risk by joggers taking shortcuts across the runway. Our job is to kill and engage the enemy, not each other."

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Stealing Harvard." A middle-class man turns to a life of crime in order to finance his niece's first year at Harvard University.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Legends of the Fall."



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Wednesday
Bagram:	Scattered t-storms H: 95F L: 68F	Haze H: 97F L: 64F
Kandahar:	Dust H: 104F L: 79F	Dust H: 108F L: 77F
Kabul:	Scattered t-storms H: 91F L: 63F	Haze H: 90F L: 61F
Uzbekistan:	Sunny H: 103F L: 63F	Partly cloudy H: 102F L: 62F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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CJTF-180 Commander —

Maj. Gen. John R. Vines

CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —

Command Sgt. Maj. Dennis Carey

Public Affairs Officer —

Col. Rodney Davis

Public Affairs Sergeant Major —

Sgt. Maj. Harrison Sarles

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Commander — Maj. William Mott

NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James

Journalists — Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw,

Pfc. Christina Carde, Pfc. Terri Rorke

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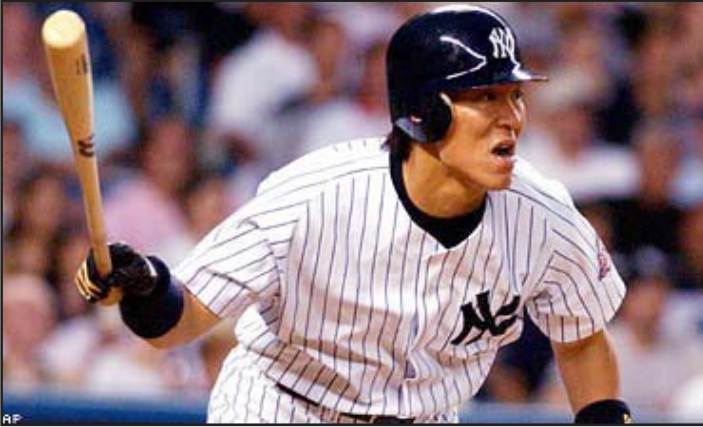
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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



Fan voting on the internet made Hideki Matsui an All-Star.

Yanks win on error

NEW YORK — Pedro Martinez and Mike Mussina matched each other pitch for pitch, so the New York Yankees just waited for a fortunate bounce.

Todd Walker booted Curtis Pride's bases-loaded grounder in the ninth inning, giving New York a 2-1 victory over the Boston Red Sox on Monday and a split of their four-game series.

"If there's a blueprint for beating Pedro, that's the blueprint. Keep it close and hope for a break," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "He doesn't give you much."

Martinez and Mussina locked up in a marquee matchup that lived up to its billing, and Red Sox reliever Byung-Hyun Kim had another forgettable day at Yankee Stadium.

New York won without Derek Jeter and Alfonso Soriano, who left early after bruising their hands on high-and-tight pitches from Martinez, and increased its AL East lead to four games over Boston.

Lunke wins Women's Open with dramatic playoff birdie



Hilary Lunke celebrates after making the winning birdie putt on the 18th hole.

NORTH PLAINS, Ore. — Only when Hilary Lunke saw her 15-foot birdie putt break sharply to the left and head for the center of the cup did she grasp the magnitude of her victory Monday in the U.S. Women's Open.

No one had ever won the most prestigious prize in women's golf as a qualifier. In 22 events on the LPGA Tour, Lunke had never finished better than 15th.

And on the longest course in U.S. Women's Open history, she was

among the shortest hitters, unable to reach some greens with a fairway metal.

In a three-way playoff at Pumpkin Ridge, Lunke surprised everyone but herself.

"I don't know how many people knew about my game or knew about me," she said. "I didn't need other people to believe in me, but it was important that I did."

Agent wishes charity game was closed

ESPN — LeBron James, the No. 1 pick in the NBA draft, will play his first game in NBA uniform with the Cleveland Cavaliers against the Orlando Magic on Tuesday, but James' agent, Aaron Goodwin, told ESPN.com Monday night that he'd rather James have a chance to play competitively in private before being exposed to public scrutiny.

"This is supposed to be a learning experience, but it's hard for it to be when there will be more than 10,000 fans there and more than 100 members of the media," Goodwin said. "Before this year, the Magic's summer league was closed, but now they've opened it up (for a day) and in doing so, LeBron's every move will be watched, his every dribble, his every shot."

"I know LeBron welcomes the challenge, but I also realize he's just 18 years old," Goodwin said.

Last week, Goodwin advocated that the Magic give some of the proceeds from the \$5 tickets to games to Cleveland-based charities. The Magic earmarked funds for the Orlando Magic Youth Foundation. As of Monday night, it was still unclear whether the team would give any proceeds to the Cavaliers, Goodwin said.

Outfielder's year halted by torn ACL

CHICAGO — Chicago Cubs center fielder Corey Patterson went on the 15-day disabled list Monday with a torn ligament in his left knee and will miss the rest of the season.

Patterson tore the ACL and cartilage in his left knee when he beat out an infield single in the eighth inning Sunday against the St. Louis Cardinals. He crossed the base and then dropped to the ground, rolling over and grabbing his knee while wincing in pain.

Patterson stayed on the ground for several minutes while trainers attended to him, but walked off the field on his own. Patterson was surprised with the results on Monday.

"Yesterday when it happened, I was in a lot of pain, but it seemed after maybe 30 seconds it went away," Patterson said. "I was able to get up and walk off the field, I thought I just sprained it pretty bad. It was just unfortunate that I got the bad news today, but that's all part of it. It happens, now I just got to deal with it."

SPORTS, from Page 5

Cubs trainer David Tumbas doesn't expect Patterson to be back until next spring training.

Court refuses to dismiss Sprewell's libel suit

ESPN — A New York State Supreme Court judge gave New York Knicks guard Latrell Sprewell the green light to proceed with his \$40 million libel suit against the New York Post and Post staff writer Marc Berman.

Sprewell is suing the newspaper and its staff writer for publishing four reports that claimed Sprewell fractured his right pinkie finger — an injury that kept him out of the first eight games of the NBA season — during an altercation on his boat.

"This is a major victory for us," said Bob Gist, Sprewell's agent. Gist said two additional defendants — New York Post reporters Mark Hale and Doug Montero — could be added to the case in the coming days.

The Post, citing unnamed sources, reported that Sprewell injured his shooting hand by hitting a wall with an errant punch aimed at the boyfriend of a woman who had vomited on his boat. Sprewell calls the reports "ridiculous" and contends that he suffered the injury while trying to brace himself during a fall on the boat's deck.

"We're happy with the result and we look forward to continuing this case to its logical conclusion," said Stephen Weizenecker, Sprewell's lead attorney.

Blazers fine Stoudamire \$250,000 after latest mishap

PHOENIX — Damon Stoudamire, who was arrested on marijuana charges after allegedly trying to pass through an airport metal detector with almost 1½ ounces of the drug wrapped in aluminum foil, was suspended by the Portland Trail Blazers and fined \$250,000.

Stoudamire was stopped at the Tucson airport Thursday as he prepared to board a flight to New Orleans, police said Monday.

He was charged with possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphernalia, both misdemeanors. Police said he was carrying almost 40 grams of marijuana.

Editor loses job over embellishment

ROSWELL, N.M. — The sports editor of the Roswell Daily Record has been fired for fabricating part of a news story about a golf tournament in which he quoted a fictional character from the movie "Caddyshack."

Gregory M. Jones was dismissed by the Daily Record on June 17, the day after his article about a Father's Day golf tournament at the Roswell Country Club appeared on the sports page, editor Mike Bush said.

"He got a bunch of scores and wanted to make it more inter-

esting," Bush said Thursday. He said he did not know if Jones attended the tournament.

He said the newspaper insists on accuracy and objectivity and "we don't tolerate anything less than that."

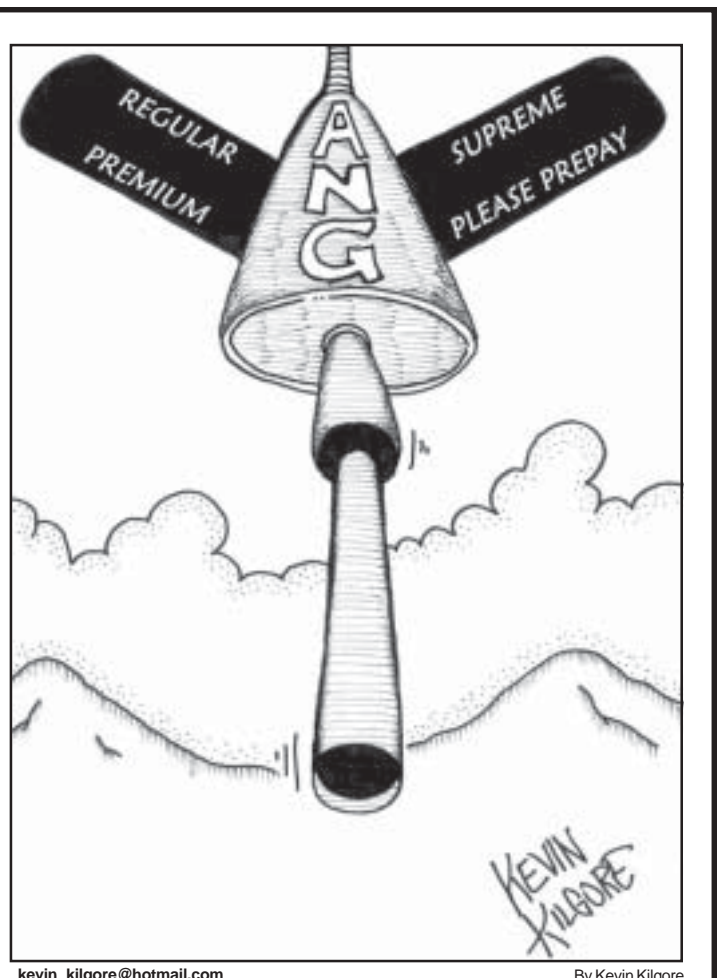
Payton won't be returning to Milwaukee

ESPN — The agent for Gary Payton said Sunday that the All-Star guard has narrowed his list of prospective employers for next season to three teams, headlined by the Los Angeles Lakers.

It's a list that does not include the Milwaukee Bucks, according to agent Aaron Goodwin, even though the Bucks can outbid anyone for the 34-year-old free agent.

Amid ongoing talks with Lakers officials, who are limited to offering Payton a starting salary of just under \$5 million, Goodwin told ESPN.com that the recently dethroned champions are "absolutely" Payton's preference. The only other teams Payton will consider, according to Goodwin, are Portland and Miami.

The Lakers also are said to be the first choice of Utah forward Karl Malone, who is reportedly waiting to see if L.A. lands Payton before agreeing to sign for a mere \$1.5 million next season. That's the most the over-the-cap Lakers can offer Malone if they use their \$4.9 million salary-cap exception on Payton.



kevin_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support